Uniform fee structure for private medical colleges

*315. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private medical colleges in the country;

(b) the number of colleges recognized;

(c) whether Government is proposing to introduce uniform fee pattern for self financed colleges; and

(d) if so, by when this would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) At present, there are 299 medical colleges in the country, out of which 141 are in Government Sector and 158 are in Private Sector. 220 medical colleges have been recognized under Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, so far. The remaining colleges have been permitted to conduct courses till recognition is granted under provisions of Indian Medical Council Act/Regulations.

2. As regards the question of introducing uniform fee pattern for self financed colleges, it is stated that it is not possible to do so as the provision of facilities and extent of expenditure vary from college to college. Some of the factors which determine the structure of fee are (i) the cost of land and building and the available infrastructure, (ii) the expenditure on administration and maintenance, (iii) the revenue earned from the patient care services rendered in the attached hospital and other sources (iv) the amount of assistance received from the Government in the form of financial grant/equity, land, subsidized land, subsidized lease land or building, free or subsidized attachment with Government hospital or any such facility provided at concessional rate, (v) the scholarship or stipend, if any, provided by the Government to the students admitted in the institution and (vi) a reasonable surplus required for growth and development of the professional Institution etc.

3. Presently as per Hon'ble Supreme Court order, each State has constituted two Committees headed by retired High Court Judges for determining fee structure and deciding admission process. This is the arrangement till such time the Central Government/State Governments bring in their own legislations on the matter.

4. At present, no proposal has been finalised to introduce a uniform fee pattern for private medical colleges.

Suicide by farmers

*316. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who have committed suicide till date after the declaration of Debt Relief and Loan Waiver Scheme, 2008, State-wise;

(b) whether any analysis has been made of the causes that led to these suicides; and